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A New GCFI-GCR Partnership

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EDITORIAL: A NEW GCFI–GCR PARTNERSHIP

Gulf and Caribbean Research (GCR) is pleased to announce the development of a formal partnership agreement with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI; <http://gcfi.org/index.php>). This agreement is intended to formalize a long–term partnership between the GCFI and the University of Southern Mississippi–Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (USM–GCRL) for the publication of peer–reviewed articles emanating from presentations that were delivered at the annual meeting of the GCFI. GCFI members in good standing can submit manuscripts based on presentations given at the annual GCFI conference, and accepted articles will be published as full Open Access in GCR. The annual GCR volume will include accepted papers from both GCFI and non–GCFI authors. The GCFI–GCR partnership is based on a calendar year, beginning in January with the start of a new GCR volume. Renewal of the Partnership Agreement will occur every 3 years upon mutual agreement by GCFI and USM–GCRL.

Readers will notice some changes on the GCR web page once the partnership agreement is finalized. These include display of the GCFI logo, with a link to GCFI, and the addition of a new GCFI Partnership section for accepted articles. In addition, we have expanded the Editorial Advisory Board to include Mr. LeRoy Creswell, a long–time GCFI member and editor of the *Proceedings of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute*. Additionally, the GCR Editor and Co–Editor, as well as several Associate Editors (Shivlani, Oxenford, Aguilar–Perera) are also GCFI members. *Gulf and Caribbean Research*, now in its 56th year of publication, continues to consider manuscripts which deal mainly with research or research issues pertinent to the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea (<http://aquila.usm.edu/gcr/aimsandscope.html>). These include full papers, short communications, review papers, and book reviews. Beginning in 2016 we have also added invited ‘Ocean Reflections’ papers (http://aquila.usm.edu/gcr/ocean_reflections/), authored by eminent senior scientists. *Gulf and Caribbean Research* continues to provide an important outlet for peer–reviewed publications from the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea regions. Our new partnership with GCFI will allow member scientists from the region the ability to publish open access articles at no cost to the individual scientists, providing wider distribution to topics of interest to GCR readers as well as to GCFI members.

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